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PROD - 11

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25 September 1958

MEMORANDUM FOR: Assistant to DD/I (Administration)  
THROUGH: Assistant Director for Research and Reports  
SUBJECT: DD/P Response to [REDACTED] Proposal on Svalbard 25X1A5a1  
REFERENCES: (a) Letter to General Cabell from [REDACTED]  
Dated 26 August 1958  
(b) Memorandum to DD/I from Acting AD/RR, dated  
16 September 1958, Subject: Proposal Concerning  
Svalbard by [REDACTED]

25X1A9a

25X1A8a

1. [REDACTED] of Geography Division has been contacted by a [REDACTED] DD/P, with a somewhat odd report regarding Svalbard. It seems that [REDACTED] upon receiving [REDACTED] letter, had queried the military services as to their interest in Svalbard. The services replied that they did have requirements but that they were not willing, at this time, to spend money on collection operations. [REDACTED] went on to say, in another context, that the DD/P does not plan to use [REDACTED] but will attempt to develop other sources.

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25X1A5a1

2. It would appear that DD/P may be basing its judgment as to CIA support of [REDACTED] proposal on the availability of money from the services. This is, if correct, an unfortunate choice of criteria for judging the United States' need for basic information on Svalbard. Our position, as contained in Reference (b), is that intelligence collection on Svalbard should, in fact, be increased. The Soviets are up to something which could have important military implications. The United States, on the other hand, is handicapped by a serious lack of data on Svalbard and is unable to produce either reliable estimates or adequate intelligence support for potential U.S. operations in the area.

25X1X4

Distribution:

0&1 - Addressee  
2 - AD/RR

[REDACTED] Chief, Geographic Research

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ORR:Ch/G:RTA/[REDACTED]mc/535(25 Sep 1958) ~~SECRET~~